

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.1254**

(Doc. No. 12294ac06.doc)

TO:	The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Chairman, Senate Medical Affairs Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	R.J. Stein, Harry Bell, Bryce Wilson		
DATE:	March 29, 2006	SBD:	2006161

AUTHOR:	Senator Ford	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	44-7-55
SUBJECT:	Hospital Charges to Uninsured Patients		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 1254 amends Article 1, Chapter 7, Title 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 44-7-55 which prohibits any licensed hospital from charging uninsured patients fees for services that are in excess of the maximum fees charged to insured patients for the same services.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Department of Health & Environmental Control

This Bill impacts on the fees charged to patients. If this bill is enacted, there would be no fiscal impact on the State General Fund or on Federal or Other funds.

Department of Health & Human Services

Enactment would have no impact on the Medicaid program. Under the Medicaid program hospitals are reimbursed for services at an established rate regardless of an individual patient's charges.

Medical University of South Carolina

Enactment would have no fiscal impact on the State General Fund or on Federal or Other funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget